

श्रीमती सुशीला रोहतगी : मान्यवर, अनुदान देने की जो बात है यह यू०जी०सी० के द्वारा हाता है और यू०जी०सी० और पश्चिमी बंगाल सरकार के बीच में बराबर इस के लिये बात चल रही है। अगर हमारे माननीय सदस्य स्वयं पश्चिमी बंगाल की राज्य सरकार से इसके बारे में कुछ जल्दी करवा दें और फिर यू०जी०सी० के माध्यम से अगर बात आती है तो अपनी तरफ से जो भी हो सकता है उस को हम जल्दी से कराने का प्रयास करेंगे।

SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS; Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister as to what are the terms and conditions which are required to be fulfilled for getting the grant from the UGC because I have come to know from the West Bengal Government that they have sent all the particulars to the Centre. Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar was not only a great person but a pioneer in women's welfare. And the West Bengal Government has sent all the details to the UGC. May I know what are the terms and conditions?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: Sir, so far as the eminence of Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar is concerned, there can never be two opinions. But if the hon. Member wants to know the terms and conditions, as I spelt out earlier, the rules require that the university should have created physical facilities, building, equipment, books, etc., costing not less than Rs. 2 crores. But it has constructed only Rs. 82 lakhs worth of buildings so far. And it has not started any teaching programme. Apart from that every teaching department should have a professor, two readers and an adequate number of lecturers. That was not being done. Thirdly, it has also to take into account the recommendations of the Education Commission and the Gajendragadkar Committee. The UGC is looking into the Vidyasagar University Act itself and the comments will be sent to the State Government. Only when they are agreed to that the question of sanc-

tioning of the grant and other things will arise, after all the other conditions are fulfilled.

Effects of Colours/Dyes in Foodstuff On Human System

"224. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA; Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any critical analysis of the effects of the use of colours/dyes in foodstuff on human system for the purpose of delisting harmful colours; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what action Government have taken to ban the use of harmful colours/dyes in the foodstuff?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Central Committee on Food Standards, a statutory advisory body to the Government, had set up an Expert Sub-Committee which went into the question of use of colours/dyes in foodstuffs against the background of their effects on human system.

The Expert Sub-Committee has recommended to the Central Committee on Food Standards lowering of permissible limits of colours/dyes permitted under the P.F.A. laws and the C. F. S. is seized of the matter.

SHE! KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: We have been hearing for a long time this type of an answer that the matter is under consideration of the Government of India. May I remind the honourable Minister that the study of toxicological evolution shows the adverse effects of some of the dyes on the human system, such as red dye, and may I also mention that most of these dyes have been prohibited in most of the Western countries like the US. May I request that the matter be expedited?

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will expedite it. Now you put your second supplementary.

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: The Expert Sub-Committee of the C. C. F. S. recommended as early as 1979, that is, six years back, that all the dyes should be completely stopped as far as foodstuffs are concerned. I would only like to ask the Minister that it should be expedited.

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR: I would like to react to the honourable Member that out of the eleven coal tar food colours about which the honourable Member is mentioning, the Expert Sub-Committee has recommended that only one of them need to be harmed. The statutory formalities require that the recommendations of the Sub-Committee be put before the Central Committee for Food Standards which has been statutorily formed to advise the Government. This procedure is being expedited.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: These synthetic colours are mostly used in toffees, jellies, icecreams and soft drinks and these colours do not serve the consumer in any way because they do not have any nutritional value. Children will be very much affected by these synthetic colours as per the studies of some of the teams. As Mr. Birla pointed out the Central Committee for Food Standards took a stand in 1979 which was reiterated again last year during its meeting on 31st August. Even the Minister, Mr. Makwana, pointed out in a recent seminar that some of the permitted colours are also being used indiscriminately completely ignoring the maximum limits laid down under the law. Under these circumstances, may I request the honourable Minister to consider banning these synthetic colours which are hazardous to health and came great harm particularly to children, especially in view of the fact that these have been banned in some of the Western countries?

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR: The Food Additives Sub-Committee had made its recommendations only as near as February 1985 and as I said earlier, this has to be put before the Central Committee. They have recommended that only one colour, Fast Red E, may be banned. The opinion of that committee is that the actual use of these colours is much less than 200 mg. per 1 kg. allowed under the Food Adulteration Act. And, Sir, they have recommended that in view of the actual practice in the field, the permissible limit may be reduced to 100 mg. per kg. of any food article.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Sukul.

SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, some of the sweets and things like jam, jelly, ketchup, syrups, etc. have also colouring articles in them. Our Minister has just now told us that only in one case the Committee has recommended that the colour should be banned while in the other cases the matter is still under the study of the Government or the authorities concerned. So, Sir, does it mean that no action has so far been taken by the Government against the use of these 'artificial' colours against persons who have been using them and, if action has been taken, I would like to know against how many people action has been taken?

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR: Sir, there are two categories of colours. One category is, that is now permitted under the Act. Out of these eleven colours, one is to be banned as per recommendation and the other ten colours have been found by the Expert Committee to be safe. As regards the other category of colours which are banned, they come under the punitive provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Dr. Mahishi.

DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: Sir, the Minister has said that

a Sub-Committee was appointed and that the Committee has sent a report to the Central Government. May I know from the honourable Minister whether the Government would like to have a permanent committee for this as this is a continuing and continuous process to examine these edible articles?

Secondly, Sir, since these things are coming under the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, they have to be sent to the laboratories for testing. I would like to know how many laboratories there are in the country to examine these things and submit their reports. Every State does not have a laboratory and in the States where there are laboratories the time taken for examination is more than a year or two. Under the circumstances, I would like to know whether the Government would like to get up a few laboratories in the country.

Thirdly, Sir, the honourable Minister has himself said that—out of eleven, ten colours are permissible. Even in the case of these ten colours, by permutation and combination, go many colours can be made. Will the Government admit all these colours also in view of the fact that ten colours have been permitted by the Sub-Committee?

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR: Sir, this Committee is a statutory body under section 3 of the Act. It has a life of three years and this Committee is being reconstituted and the notification will come out very shortly. Sir, there are 72 laboratories, for checking food adulteration in the country. Of course, we have the usual programme of enhancing this infrastructure.

DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: Sir, I was referring to the delay that is being caused even in the case of perishable edible articles.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, examination under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act has to be done by the laboratories and, so there is

inordinate delay in the examination. Is there any proposal to reduce the time taken by these laboratories for examination of these food items?

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR: Sir, we are constantly reviewing the progress of prosecution, and testing under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act. We are constantly in touch with the State Governments' to speed up the programme. In regard to these colours, which are water-soluble colours, there is no particular difficulty in testing in the laboratories.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Desai.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Sir, these colours are also used for preparing sweetmeats like peppermint and other things which are being consumed by the small children. Will the Government see to it that these colours are not used in the manufacture of such things as peppermints, etc.?

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR:—Sir the Government is aware that the banned colours are being used in food articles in the country and there have been many studies on the subject. We have written to the State Governments especially in respect of four colours which are harmful to the human system, and we are systematically pursuing the matter with the State Governments.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Matto.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO: Sir, throughout the length and breadth of the country, outside the primary schools, middle schools and higher secondary schools, small vendors sell these things. Will the honourable Minister take into consideration this fact that these things are being manufactured by the local people and what instructions will be given to the State Governments to have some control over these small-scale manufacturers of such spurious things?

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR: Sir, this is something coming within the purview of the Anti-Food Adulteration

and Drug Control Administrator* of the State and this is also covered by that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Next Question. Question No. 225.

New talent in sports

*225. SHRI GURUDAS DAS
GUPTA: SHRI SANKAR
PRASAD MITRA: t

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state;

(a) what is Government's programme to find out new male talent in cricket, hockey and football;

(b) what steps Government propose to take to encourage women's hockey and women's cricket; and

(c) what is Government's programme to ensure better performance by the Indian contingent in the forthcoming Olympics at Seoul?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN WELFARE (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Although 'sports' is a State subject under the Constitution of India, the Central Government has in operation certain schemes for spotting and nurturing of talent which, except where specified apply equally to boys and girls. While these schemes are not meant specially for promotion of cricket, hockey and football, all of them cover the disciplines of hockey, most of them cover football and some also cricket. These are: —

(1) The National Coaching Scheme operated by the Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports (NSNIS) which functions under the Society for National Institutes of Physical Education and Sports (SNIPES);

tThe question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri shanjtar Prasad Mitra.

(2) The scheme of-SNIPES field stations in universities implemented by NSNIS;

(3) The scheme of Sports Talent Search Scholarships of the Department implemented by NSNIS;

(4) The scheme of AH India Rural Sports Tournaments of the Department operated by NSNIS;

(5) The scheme of National Sports Championships for Women of the Department implemented by NSNIS;

(6) The schemes of Grants to National Sports Federations, Association of Indian Universities and School Games Federation of India operated directly by the Department, for holding annual championships for juniors and sub-juniors;

(7) The scheme of the Sports Authority of India for holding Sports Talent Search Contest.

In addition Government propose to launch a scheme for setting up sports hostels attached to regional coaching centres of the Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports, to enable non-students and even employed persons of some standard to have facilities for improving their performance in sports and games. This will be a scheme of SNIPES operated by NSNIS.

Besides the schemes mentioned above, the holding of Jawaharlal Nehru Hockey Tournament for juniors and sub-juniors and the Subroto Mukherjee Football Tournament, with financial assistance from the Government, provides specific opportunities for the spotting of talent in these disciplines. The Board of Control for Cricket in India, holds annually the Vijay Merchant Tournament and the Cooch Behar Tournament for sub-juniors and juniors with a view to spotting talent in this game.

The All India Women's Hockey Association and the Women's Cricket Association of India are provided assistance by